New Power Projects in Andhra Pradesh

4391. SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new power projects proposed to be set up in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the number of projects which have been approved by the Planning Commission during the current financial year;

(c) the stages at which these proposals are pending;

(d) the estimated cost and installed capacity of the projects; and

(e) the steps taken to expedite clearance of these power projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) 6 Projects namely A.P. Power House at Balimela (2x30 MW), Srisailam L.B. PH (6x150 MW), Singur (2x7.5 MW), Kothagudam Unit 10 (250 MW), Godavari (208 MW) and Jegurupadu CCGT-ST (216 MW) are currently under execution in Andhra Pradesh. In addition, Central Electricity Authority has accorded techno-economic clearance for Vishakhapatnam (2x520 MW by Hinduja National Power Corp. Ltd.), Simhadri (2x500 MW by National Thermal Power Corp.), Priyadarshini HEP (6x36.9 MW) and Nagarjunasagar HEP Tail Pond Dam (2x25 MW).

(b) No project from Andhra Pradesh has been approved by Planning Commission during 1997-98.

(c) No proposal has been received from Andhra Pradesh for approval of Planning Commission during 1997-98.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Scandal in URI Power Project

4392. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA':
SHRI MUKESH R. PATEL:
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:
PROF. RAM KAPSE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Rs. 2000-Cr. Scandal in Uri Power Project" which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 27th February, 1997; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that the French Consortium that undertook the work of the project, left the work midway;

(c) whether it is also a fact that its cost is Rs. 900 Crore more than the current international project cost;

(d) if the answer to parts (b) and (c) above be in the affirmative, the reasons therefor and the details of agreement signed with French Consortium; and

(e) whether any inquiry has been conducted into the matter and if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Yes, Sir. It has not been substantiated that there has been a scandal in execution of the Uri Hydro-electric Project (480 MW) in Jammu & Kashmir. The project was sanctioned in June 1989 at a cost of Rs. 1632.62 crores (March 1989 price level) on turn-key execution with bilateral foreign assistance from Sweden and United Kingdom. The completion period of the Project was six years from the date of start of works and the project was to be completed by November, 1995. Due to disturbed condition in the project site, there was a delay in completion of the project, which is now scheduled for May 1997. The latest estimated completion cost of the project is about Rs. 3300 crores. The increase of Rs. 1667 crores in the project cost is mainly due to exchange

rate variation and extra interest liability due to delay in completion of the project. These have together contributed to an increase in the cost of about 80 per cent; the balance being due to price escalation increase in taxes and duties etc.

(b) to (e) Dulhasti Project was sanctioned in 1989 (for turn-key execution) at a cost of Rs. 1262.97 crores (at 1988 price level) to a French Consortium of firms consisting of M/s Coyne Et Bellier (COB), M/s. Dumez, Sogea & Borie (DSB); M/s. CEGELEC; M/s COMELEX; and M/s. SEITP.

The revised cost of the project is Rs. 3559.77 crores (November 1996 price level) and the estimated time schedule for completion of the project is 2000-2001. The original agreement with the Consortium had envisaged completion of the project within 57 months from the date of order i.e. October 1989. However, the work on the project was suspended in August 1992 by the French Consortium due to disturbed law and order conditions at the project site. With a view to resuming the work on the project, discussions were held and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was executed between National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) and the French Consortium. In pursuance of the MOU a recission agreement was signed in June 1995, according to which M/s DSB, the civil contractor, paid back to NHPC an amount of 50 million French Francs (about Rs. 23 crores) as full and final settlement. However, the MOU permitted other four members of the Consortium to continue with the implementation of the project. After widhdrawal of M/s DSB, NHPC took over the plant and machinery of M/s DSB and the civil works were taken up departmentally in 1995. With a view to completing the balance civil works, NHPC has singed contract with a new civil contractor.

In view of the facts mentioned above, there is no proposal for any inquiry into the matter.

लक्षित सकल घरेलू उत्पाद विकास दर को प्राप्त करने के लिए अतिरिक्त विद्युत उत्पादन

4393. **श्री राम जेठमलानी:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 30 अप्रैल, 1997 को "बिजनेस स्टैंडर्ड" में प्रकाशित "पावर जेनरेशन सीन लिंक्ड टू जी०डी०पी० ग्रोथ" शीर्षक की ओर दिलाया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या आगामी वर्षों में देश में जी०डी०पी० की लक्षित वार्षिक विकास दर प्राप्त करने के लिए अतिरिक्त विद्युत उत्पादन क्षमता स्थापित करना जरूरी है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो 7 प्रतिशत का लक्षित जी०डी०पी० दर प्राप्त करने के लिए विद्युत उत्पादन की कितनी वार्षिक दर आवश्यक है?

विद्युत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० एस० वेनुगोपालाचारी): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) और (ग) जीडीपी की विकास दर विद्युत उत्पादन समेत कई सारे घटकों पर निर्भर करती है और योजना आयोग समग्र आर्थिक लक्ष्यों को मद्देनजर रखते हुए क्षेत्रीय योजनाओं को अंतिम रूप प्रदान करता है।

Running of a unit of Dadri Thermal Power Station of Oil

4394. SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Ageing plants may short circuit DVB plan" which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 3rd April, 1997;

(b) whether there is a proposal to run one unit of Dadri Thermal Power Station on oil; if so, the cost involved and the quantum of oil/fuel required per month to run the plant and stating the agency which would be bearing the cost of oil;

(c) whether Delhi Vidyut Parishad (DVP) is equipped enough to manage the gap between supply and demand of power in the capital; if so, the steps taken in the direction; and